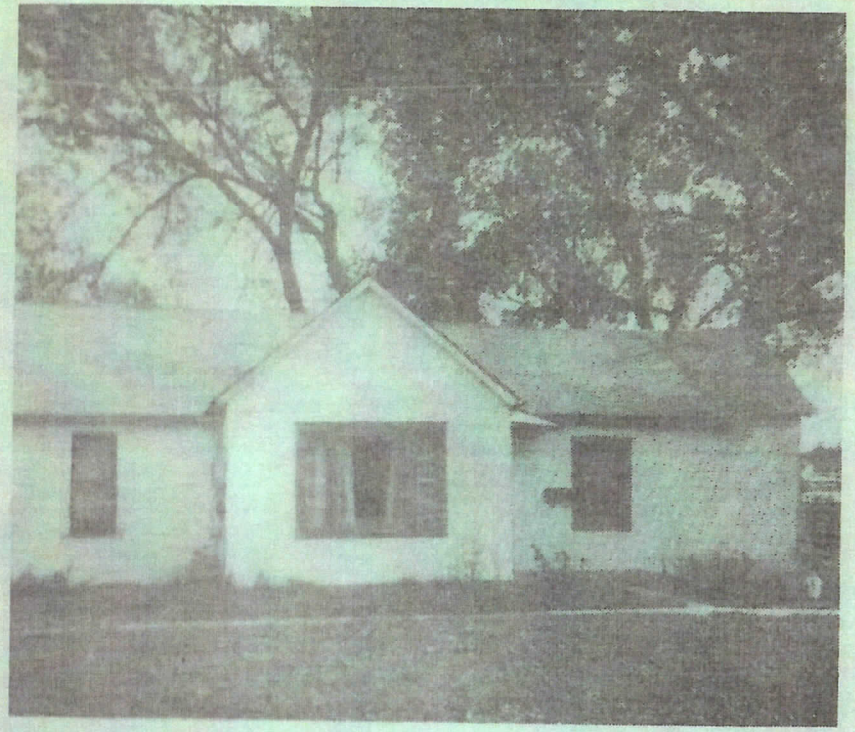
# IN THE BEGINNING



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Yates Center, Kansas
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IN THE BEGINNING

Vol. 11-No. 41 January, 1978

*Lester A. Harding, Editor*

## EDITOR'S NOTES —

We were agreeable surprised at the number of subscribers that renewed their subscription after seeing a red square with an X in it. However, there were quite a few that did not send in their renewal. We will try it in this issue also.

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There are times when we are getting in a hurry to get some of these issues ready for the printer we will think perhaps this one will be one of the least interesting copies that we have ever put out. But usually when it comes out, we sell more of them or someone tell us how that they enjoyed that particular issue. So what some don't like others do.

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Starting another year of "In The Beginning" seems more like a challenge wondering if we can come up with enough interesting stories of Woodson County. Some time ago we were asking for some help from one of our readers, when she said, "you know it seems rather funny that what it takes us minutes to read, takes you hours and days to put together."

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Our cover picture this quarter is a small house just to the north side of the railroad on North State street. This house was moved into Yates Center from Kalida around 110 years ago now. It has perhaps been changed some, including the large window in the front.

There were several of the houses moved from the town of Kalida into the new "town" of Yates Center. This may have been one of those that were moved by the method devised by H. T. Chellis, of cutting down a large tree and and sawing it into large round slices to be used as a wheel to be put under the houses. A large hole was bored through the center of the wheel-like slice and an axle of some kind to be run through and under the building.

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## WOODSON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY
Organized March, 1965

The Woodson County Historical held their regular dinner meeting at the Woodson House, Tuesday evening, September 27. There were 58 present for the dinner and the program, presented by Iris Winfrey. Iris showed colored slides of various places that she and Virgil have traveled in the past year.

The Yates Center Music Club presented the program at the November 22, meeting of the Woodson County Historical Society. The usual buffet style dinner was served at the Woodson House, to 50 people. Around ten more came for the program. The members of the Music Club practiced for the Vesper program before coming to the Historical Society meeting.

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On the afternoons of September 21 and 22, fifty 8th grade students of the Yates Center Middle School toured the Woodson County Historical Museum.

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Ten Camp-Fire girls, the leader and three other adults, from Raytown, Mo., made a tour of the Woodson Co. Historical Museum on November 19. The leader of this group of Campfire girls was Mrs. Lois Hasstedt, formerly of near Yates Center. This group of girls seemed to enjoy their tour, and most every one of them made a comment of the Museum along with their name.

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### IN MEMORIAN

Neva Stoll Brown 81 November 20, 1977

Neva was a Charter Member of the Woodson County Historical Society, and attended most all of the meetings until her health prevented her coming. She had lived most of her life in Woodson County.

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This is also the time of the year to pay up on the regular dues to the Woodson County Historical Society.

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**Join and Support the**
**Woodson County Historical Society**

**Life Membership $25.00** **Regular Membership $2.00**

ISAAC DANIEL BARNES FAMILY —

Sometime in the latter part of 1894 a covered wagon pulled by a team of horses came to the hill at the east side of Yates Center. The horses were thin and very tired. The team, wagon and people in it had come from Enid, Okla., and were headed for Nebraska. Some of the hills between Enid and Yates Center were long and steep, and in some cases the horses could not pull the wagon to the top of the hill, so the people would get out and walk up the grade to ease the load for the faithful horses, who were their only hope of reaching Nebraska. By the time that the team got to the top of the hill one of the horses was very sick. The people had very little money-just $1.50. They spent their last cent for medicine for that horse and to their great sorrow the horse was dead the next morning.

The occupants of the wagon were Isaac Daniel Barnes, his wife Matilda, and children, Homer, Elmer, Walter and Clara. While they had not planned it and hard for them to believe it, Woodson County was to be their future home, and soon established themselves here.

Issac Daniel Barnes, in later years known better by the initials I.C., was born October 21, 1859, in Owen County Indiana. His wife, Matilda Jane (Tillie) Taylor was born November 18, 1862, at Spencer, Indiana. They were married at Spencer, November 12, 1881.

Like many others the lure of the west had fired the pioneer spirit and in the spring of 1883, I.D., Tillie and a year old son Homer, loaded their possessions in a covered wagon and started west. In time they arrived in Polk County, Nebraska, where they soon engaged in farming for a couple of years. Here their son Elmer was born, March 1, 1885.

Hearing of homesteads were to be had in Colorado, they again pulled up stakes and headed farther west in the late fall of 1885. Accompanying Mr. and Mrs. Barnes and two small sons were old friends the S.G. Davis family from Spencer, Indiana. They arrived in Sedgewick County, Colo. in the midst of a terrible blizzard. The only shelter available that they could find was with two bachelors who were living in a one room sod house about twelve by fourteen feet in size. They had to stay in the sod shanty for three days as the blizzard was so fierce a person could see only a few feet away. There were six adults and four children in this one room. As soon as the weather permitted they dug a small dugout of their own. This was their home until a better one could be made. When spring came they set out to build themselves a sod house as that was the only material available.

Things were very rough in Colorado, as it seldom rained and the winters were very severe. During their eight years in Colorado the Barnes raised only two crops. Sedgewick County was in the northeast corner of the state. They were south of Julesburg. Venango, Neb. was their closest trading place.

In the late spring of 1894 they noticed that the wheat they had sown the fall before had not even sprouted as there had been no rain for a long time. They sold out for $150.00 and some needed supplies. They left Colorado in a covered wagon along with the Davis'. In the meantime there were two more additions to their family, Walter and Clara Dulcie.

This time they went to Oklahoma to find work and establish homes. But Oklahoma was in the midst of a drought—no crops and no work. Although discouraged but determined they left Enid and their next stop as told was Yates Center.

**Picture of I.D. and Tillie Barnes taken in 1920**

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For many years Mr. and Mrs. I.D. Barnes lived on the farm along Owl Creek, five miles east and three quarter miles south of Yates Center. After arriving in Woodson County two more children were born-Emma Anna and Otis.

We will take up the children of I.D. and Matilda Barnes.

Homer the oldest was born in Owen Co. Indiana, Dec., 1882 and died Aug. 22, 1898 at the age of 15.

Elmer Barnes, born in Polk Co., Nebraska. He was married to Mary C. Sellars, March 1, 1908. They were the parents of two children, Ralph Merl, born Woodson County, April 6, 1911, and Viola Norine born Woodson County, August 30, 1912.

Ralph Merl married Patricia Elizabeth Daniels, on April 21, 1935. Their children were; Lowell Allen, Leona Kathryn, David Ralph, Lawrence Elmer and Gary Wayne.

Viola Norine married Francis LeRoy Vore, Feb. 18, 1941. Their children were; Mary Jean, Richard LeRoy, Wanda Blanche and Dorothy Lynn.

Elmer Barnes was married again in October, 1953, to Mrs. Jennie Clugston. Just a year later, October,1954, Elmer was killed while using dynamite in setting fence posts. He spent his life in Woodson County as a farmer, and machinery operator, operating a saw mill for several years and running a threshing machine.

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Walter Barnes, born April 1, 1887, in Sedgwick Co., Colo. He was married to Cora Delphene Mosier, February 1, 1911. They were the parents of four children—Iva Dean, born Oct. 3, 1911, and died Jan. 9, 1912. Albert Dale, born Woodson Co., Feb. 26, 1913, a son that died as an infant, and Estil Neal, born March 27, 1924.

Albert Dale married Velora Mae Laud. They are the parents of nine children all born in Woodson County.

Joyce Louise, born Feb. 11, 1938. Married Robert Asbury.
Joetta Lois, born Feb. 11, 1938. Married James Rasmaussen.
Evelyn Jane, born Mar. 14, 1939.
Myrtle Delphene, born May 20, 1941. Married Donald Heronime.
Howard Dale, born April 3, 1940
Margaret Ann, born March 6, 1943.
Henrietta Cora, born Oct. 29, 1944.
Glen Walter, born Feb. 28, 1947.
Barbara Jean, born April 27, 1948.

Estil Neal married Nancy Joyce Stoll, January 16, 1946. They had one child, Charlotte Nancy, born July 27, 1947.

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Clara Dulcie, born June 22, 1892, Sedgewick County, Colo., married John Heinlen. They were parents of three children; Homer Paul, born Jan. 27, 1918, baby who died in infancy, and Velma Urlene, Jan. 19, 1923, born in Woodson Co.

Homer Paul married——. They had four children.
Donald Paul, Dixie, Gary and Pam.

Velma Urlene married July 9, 1947 to Joseph Cooling. They were the parents of two children. Baby died in infancy, and Tammy, born Sept. 26, 1957, in Calif.

Emma Anna, born Jan. 17, 1898, Woodson Co., Kans. married Arthur R. Withers. She died Nov. 13, 1976. She had no children of her own, but four step-daughters, Evelyn who married Andrew McCabe, Ava Marie, married —— Wadholm, Dorothy Fern, married Lynn Brokke and Clara Alice, married William Fout.

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Otis Theodore, born Dec. 25, 1900, in Woodson Co. on August 24, 1924 he was married to Vesta Namtz, born Feb. 5, 1905. They were parents of four children. Bay who died at birth, Eva Jean, Martha

Lou, and Aletta Mae. Eva Jean was born Sept. 10, 1931, in Yates Center and married Melvin Hill, June 20, 1947. They had eight children.

Melvin Marion, Jr. born Feb. 7, 1948 and married Susanne Saunders.

Ellen Jane, born June 30, 1949 and married James Spencer. Second marriage to Oswald E. Storie.

Alice Jean, born Sept. 4, 1950 and married Steven C. Morrow.

Judith Ann, born Mar. 24, 1952 and married Kevin Swink.

James Leslie, born July 14, 1953 and married Betty Jo Ford.

John David, born Sept. 8, 1955 and married Valerie Diane Utt.

Jerald Lee, born Oct. 28, 1957.

Andrew Joseph, born Jan. 11, 1960.

Martha Lou, born Mar. 29, 1936, at Yates Center married Don Damico May 15, 1956. They have three children. Mikel Allon, Debra Anne and Dea Anne.

**Christmas 1939-back row Otis, Walter & Elmer, Front- Clara, Tillie, Emma**

JOHN N. WALKUP —

Sometime in 1859 or 1860, possibly the latter, a lone horseman rode into the Verdigris Valley. Whether this locality was his intended destination is not known, perhaps he knew someone in the valley. The area in which this unfolds is now under water of the Toronto Reservoir. What is now known as Duck Island was a high timbered bluff with the Verdigris River running along the north side of the bluff and going on across the valley when the bluff ended.

On top of this bluff was the log cabin home of the Wilhite family. About a half mile to the north of this bluff was a tavern, with perhaps some groceries, that was supposed to be operated by Smith Wilhite. This would have been the logical place for John Walkup to go to.

Rufus and Elizabeth Wilhite and sons had come into the Verdigris Valley, possibly in 1858. In the latter part of 1859 or early 1860, Rufus at the age of 63 years died of apoplexy. The claim of the Wilhite family was the Southwest quarter of section 24, Twp. 26, Range 13. To the east side of the bluff and on the south side of the Verdigris River was a tract of land of 15 acres more or less. On April 27, 1861, Elizabeth Wilhite sold this tract of land to John N. Walkup for $65.69.

Walkup's lone horse seemed to be his main possession, so evidently he did not intend to farm his land. The Civil War had started and had come to Kansas. Local companies were being organized for the Ninth Regiment of the Kansas Volunteer Calvary, at Neosho Falls, Iola and Humboldt. On October 15, 1861, there were 29 men and boys who gave their address as Verdigris, Woodson County, riding their own horses and evidently in a group went to Humboldt and enlisted in Company G of the Ninth Reg.

However there were two men of the group who were listed as having enlisted and were commissioned on January 2, 1862. Lewis Thompson as 1st Lieutenant and John Walkup as 2nd Lieutenant, of Co. G. Their captain was W. Dowdna. The company went into camp near Fort Leavenworth, between the fort and Easton, in the same county. This was Camp Brice. On April 1, 1862, John Walkup had purchased in Douglas County, a military coat, vest, pants and straps for $45.00, evidently on credit.

At Camp Brice Lt. Walkup took sick with acute meningitis and was taken to the home of a Mr. and Mrs. Orr, where Malinda Orr tried to nurse him back to health.

On June 6, 1862, Lt. John N. Walkup died and was buried at Easton, Kansas.

It was not known whether Walkup had relatives or not but in his personal effects was a letter from a C. Walkup. Also had a warranty deed for forty acres by Thomas and Amanda Silvester (Sylvester), that evidently joined his land. When the news of the death of John N. Walkup reached Woodson County, O.P. Haughawout, of Neosho Falls was appointed as administrator, with the aid of W.W.P. McConnell and Jackson Lewis, as witnesses, appointed for that purpose by the Probate Court of said county. Their first inventory was July 1, 1862, in the town of Neosho Falls.

One horse, six years old — One 40 acre Land Warrant, —One tract or piece of land containing fifty two acres more or less.

Humboldt, Oct. 22, 1862. John N. Walkup to W. Dowdnor, Dr.

To account paid Mrs. Orr for board and nursing while sick near Easton, Kansas. **$45.00**

To account paid for coffin **18.00**

To account paid for burning clothes **3.50**

(20) May 5th 1862 (20)

On demand I promis to pay
Robbert, M, Works, Twenty Dollars
for value received with twenty
percent Interest from date
(20) J, N, Walkup (20)

**Robert M. Works, was a private in Co. G. from Humboldt, Ks.**

$45.00 June 10th 1862

Receive of W Dowdnor Capt
Co G, 9th Reg Kan V forty five Dollars
for bill of nursing John N Walkup
while sick at Mrs Orrs near easton

Malinda Orr

HISTORY OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH-Yates Center.

(The first part of this history was taken from an article that was written and printed when this church observed its Golden Anniversary in May, 1931. We do not know who the author was.)

Away back behind the yesterdays when Yates Center had but a few houses, its people met in union Sunday School services in various buildings. In the Wille home whose front room was a restaurant, over a store on the south side of the square, in the City Hall over Walter Depews store on the west side, and in the stone school house after it was built. The Chellis, Landis, Woodruff and Rhea children walked in from Kalida each Sunday afternoon to Sunday School.

(There had been a Union Presbyterian Sunday School organized at Kalida before Yates Center was founded.)

These union services were the beginning of religious enterprises in the new county seat laid out by Abner Yates. Zealous Methodists had freighted out from Jacksonville, Ill., a Methodist Church, a wooden building that presently, played a part in helping to house a Presbyterian congregation. Presbyterians are essentially a folk of traditional spirit, so in May of 1880, with only a few members, they organized, meeting every other Sunday in the "shipped in" church from back east, paying into its treasury two dollars a Sunday rent. The charter membership names included: Ida Manor, Mr. and Mrs. C.W. Collins, Mr. and Mrs. I.N. Holloway, Mrs. Mary Naylor, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Schuler, Mrs. Eva Depew, S.M. Bell and Geo. Bell. The first minister was Rev. R. H. Lewis.

Next came Rev. B. F. Haviland to preach the Word, riding over from Piqua - on alternate Sundays serving a church in Neosho Falls. Rev. Haviland was entertained by local Presbyterians. One Sunday he arrived at the Depew home, Mrs. Depew's father had come to help kalsomine, and that weekend the house was topsy-turvy in a house cleaning orgy, so the preacher sought hospitality elsewhere. Next morning as Mrs. Depew sat in the M.E.-Presbyterian sanctuary wondering what sort of a sermon would be given, Rev. Haviland arose announcing his text: "Keep thy house in order."

In those early beginnings prayer meetings were held in homes. Enterprises for raising money to build a new church flourished. Ice Cream socials, and New England dinners at twenty-five cents a plate, were held in the Dobyns Opera House, that occupied the stone building on the southeast corner of the square.

Mrs. Schuler, Mrs. Kimbell and Mrs. Slavens took turns presiding at the organ. New members, bringing letters from the old home churches were added to the church roll while still worshiping in the M.E. Church: Mrs. Wm. Cooper came from the Free Kirk of Scotland; from Presbyterian Churches came Mrs. I.M. Bell, Mr. and Mrs. F.H. Spencer, M.C. Smith, Albert Ohler, Mrs. Lulu Kellenberger, Mr. and Mrs. I.N. Templin, Mrs. Coryell, Mr. and Mrs. Funston, Mrs. James Wilson, Mr. and Mrs. C.E. Florence, Mr. and Mrs. William Pingrey, Mrs. Jennie E. Erwin, Miss Sarah Deneke, Mrs. H.H. Winter, Miss Emma Herring, Mr. and Mrs. Cyrus Davidson, James Fraught; from the Congregational Church came Mr. and Mrs. J. N. Shannon, Miss Mary Shannon, Miss Bertha Powell, Mr. and Mrs. H.A. Newhouse. On profession of faith, Mrs. Genova Butler and Mr. and Mrs. Goolman. Before the organization was ten years old these familiar names were on the roll: Rankin, Landes, Shenk, Stewart, Jones, McRay, Kelley, Culver, Wille.

Mr. Richardson was one of the first Sunday School superintendents. Mrs. West, Mrs. Depew and Mrs. Newhouse were among the early teachers.

In 1884, with Mrs. Depew, Mr. and Mrs. M.C. Smith, as a building committee, a Presbyterian church, to cost, $2,500 was begun. It was dedicated in July of that year.

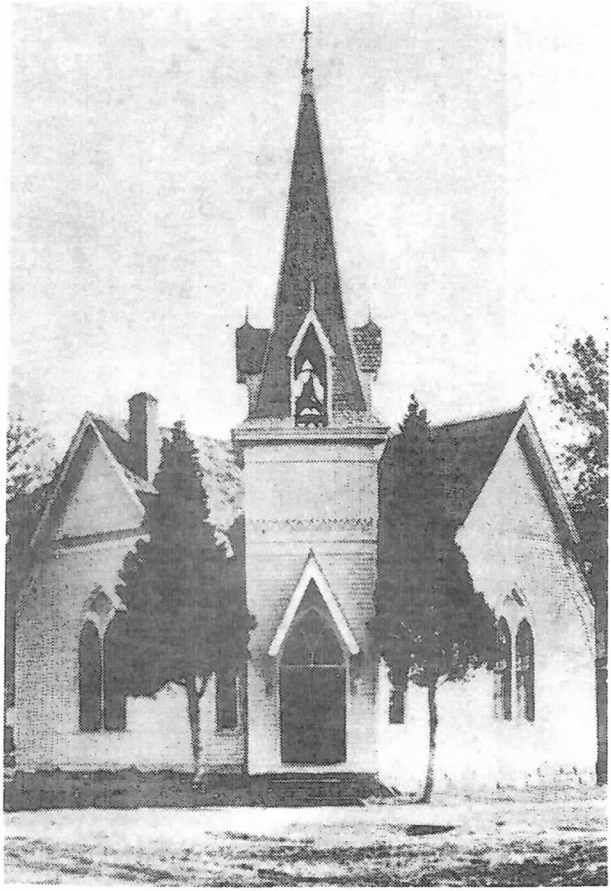
In a little hamlet just east of Neosho Falls, a zealous minister with a vision of founding a great school in the West, had built an academy at Geneva. This minister, Rev. S. Irwin preached the dedicatory sermon. Rev. James Wilson, a Scotchman, was the first to shepard the little flock in the new church, receiving a salary of $800, a part of which was paid by the Board of Home Missions.

The first members to be received in the church were Mr. and Mrs. Albert Davidson and the Misses Carrie, Bertha and Lizzie Funston.

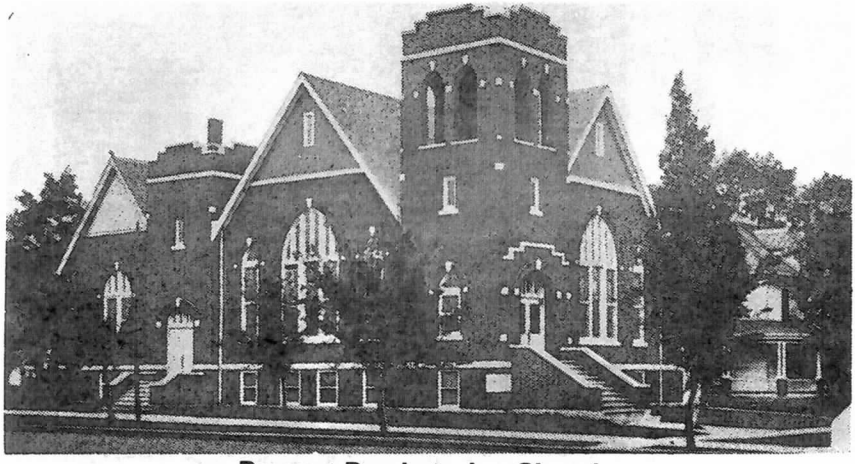
Many ministers have served the church in the first half century: Rev. Cooter, Jesse Wilson, M.D. Smith, S.G. Clark, Abram Steed, E.W. Beeson, J.M. Spargrove, W.H. Hillis, Frederick Schmidt, Nelson Shedd, Thomas Barrier, L.M. Knight, William H. Manshardt, R.S. Strain, L.H. Eakes, H.B. Mayo.

Pastors since the Golden Anniversary were: H.W. Apel, I.C. Smith, George Crockett, Howard Johnson, Dow Pinkston, Howard Johnson, Wilbur Clark, and the present pastor, Timothy Yoon.

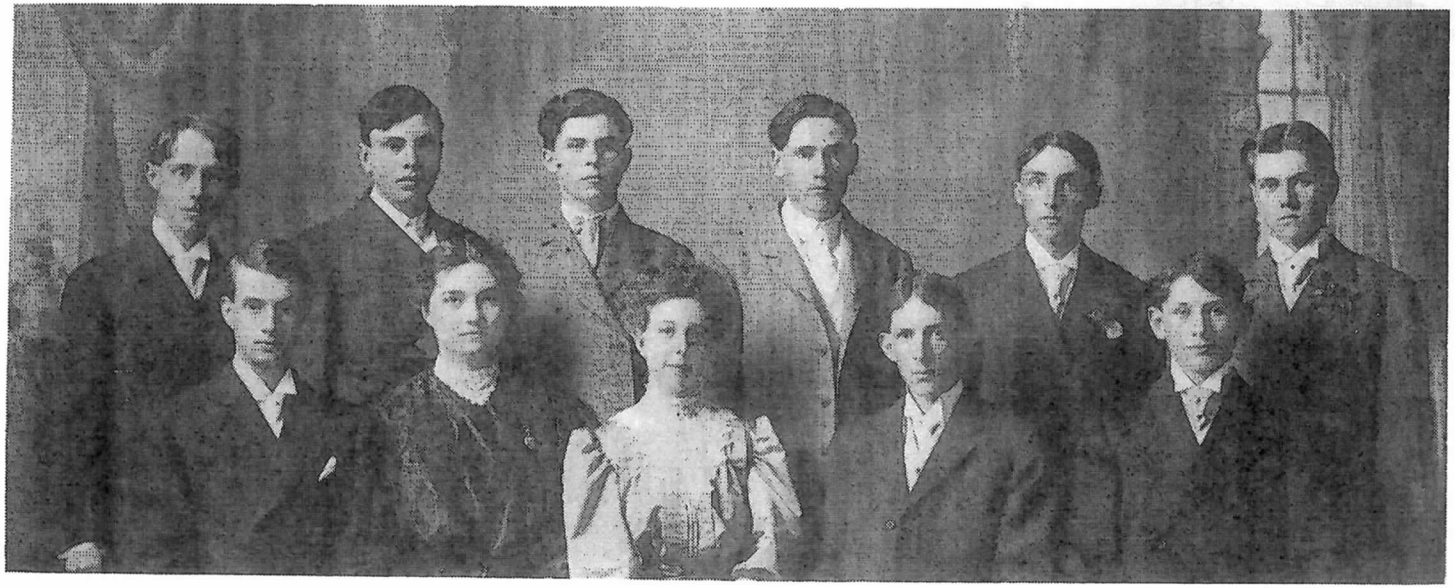
We do not have a complete list of Sunday School Superintendents. O.B. Trusler, Scott Spencer was a long time superintendent, followed by, but perhaps not in order, Charles Martin, Alan Stoll, Harry Theobald, L.D. Stoll, John Swyers, Richard Googins and Lyle Watts.



**The frame church as dedicated in July, 1884.**



**Present Presbyterian Church.**



**The Yates Center High School Graduating Class of 1906**
Back row left to right: Ben Depew, Charley Naylor, Roy Ward, Richard Phillips, Harry Landis, Earl Taylor.
Front row: Lauren Conger, Edith Schlichting, Dora Stitcher, Eric Palmer, Herbert Bailey.

ALBERT F. PALMER —

Teacher, stockman and Woodson County Superintendent of Public Instruction, before Yates Center became a town, and one of the leading merchantile business men in Yates Center was a part of the life of A.F. Palmer. He was born May 24, 1847, near Ann Arbor Michigan, and was the son of D.W. and F.D. Palmer.

A.F. Palmer came to Kansas in spring of 1870, coming direct to Woodson County. He taught a summer term of school here, then went back to Michigan, then back to Kansas spring of 1871. He raised stock and taught school for awhile and in the general election of 1874, he was elected as County Superintendent, with headquarters at Defiance, and then to Yates Center as he was elected for three terms. During his first term as County Superintendent, Mr. Palmer, organized the Yates Center schools.

On January 1, 1879, before his third term ended, Mr. Palmer entered the merchantile business, with Issac Jewett under the name of Palmer and Jewett. Their store was on the west side of the square where they carried on a general merchandise business. Two years later the store became Palmer and Trueblood. Palmer being in business in the same building for a quarter of a century.

A. F. Palmer was president of the Yates Center Board of Education for 21 consecutive years.

Being a county official and a successful school teacher A.F. Palmer took part in the greeting and entertaining of President Rutherford Hayes when he visited Neosho Falls in September, 1879. At the dinner table, A.J. Palmer and his lady friend sat across the table from the president and wife.

The lady friend mentioned was 16 year old Miss Ella Chellis, who two years later became his bride. They were married September 18, 1881, she being 18 years old and he was 34. He had been her school teacher at a term of school, evidently at Kalida.

They were the parents of three daughters, Abbey, Nelle and Iva and one son, Eric.

Abbie E. was born at Yates Center, September 2, 1882. She graduated from the Yates Center High School in 1900. She also graduated from the Chicago Conservatory of Music, and taught piano for several years. She had classes in Yates Center and Buffalo. During World War 1 Abbie enlisted for nurses training and spent months in army hospital at Junction City or Ft. Riley. Going back to teaching music she went to Boise, Idaho where she opened a studio and taught music. On Jan. 1, 1932, Abbie Palmer was married to Frank Thornburg. She passed away January 31, 1962.

Nell Palmer was born at Yates Center, in 1885.

On Dec. 4, 1907 she was married to Charles H. Landes. They had twin daughters, Maxine and Mildred. They were born April 17, 1909. They were married in a double ceremony, June 16, 1919. Maxine was married to Harry Merrill and Mildred to Carl Gibson. Carl Gibson was killed in a car accident. Later Mildred married Clyde Hill.

Charles Lande died in Sept. 1927. Nelle Landes was married to Oscar Hover, May 1, 1954.

Iva Palmer was married to Harry O. Ashley, November 18, 1918. They were both born in Yates Center. They had no children.

Eric Palmer was born in Yates Center and was a graduate of the Yates Center High School, 1906. He worked up into a good position with the Santa Fe Railroad at Dodge City. He had to leave this position because of ill health. He passed away at the age of 24 years.

A picture of Albert F. Palmer. He died Jan. 7, 1908 at the age of 60 years. His funeral was said to be the largest ever held in Yates Center up to that time.

Eric Palmer on his pony

Mrs. Nell Landes

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This story would not be complete without telling or letting Mrs. Ella Palmer tell some of the highlights of her life.

Ella Chellis was born May 1, 1863, at Keytesville, Mo., northeast of Kansas City. When she was six years old the H.T. Chellis family set out for Ft. Scott, Kans., but because of a malaria epidemic in that vicinity, the family detoured to Humboldt, where they stayed for awhile before coming to Woodson County, where Mr. Chellis laid out the town of Chellis. After her marriage to A. F. Palmer the couple lived in Yates Center where their children were all born and raised.

In an interview in 1950 Mrs. Palmer recalled that the young folks had much more fun in the old days. "In fact it didn't cost anything to have a good time. Is there anything cheaper than that?" There were frequent dances, featuring the waltz, the schottische, and the square dances.

And there were gatherings for young folks at which euchre, rather than bridge or canasta was played.

In the following picture Mrs. Palmer was dressed for one of the social highlights of early Yates Center. Mrs. Palmer did not recall just what year it was but she definitely remembers that the dress was specially made for the ceremonies accompanying the dedication of the Woodson Hotel.

As the hotel was dedicated in November 1887, Mrs. Palmer was 24 years old when this picture was taken.

**Mrs. Ella Chellis Palmer**

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Mrs. Palmer had many memories of Kalida and early Yates Center. At one time she recalled the first time that she saw the settlement of Yates Center. It consisted of "three or four houses and one store. Except for a few scrubby jack oaks to the north, the town site and surrounding area was a treeless plain." The one store was on the west side of the square about the center of the block, and was owned by Walter Depew. When Mr. Depew was elected county treasurer, my husband bought the store and operated it for many years. I was 18 when we were married."

"We were always scared of the Indians in the old days. They came through here twice a year on their way from Indian Territory to Topeka to draw their government rations. Always camped on South Owl Creek-real blanket Indians, but they never caused us any trouble." (Their trail was short distance to the west side of Yates Center." Most of them were walking except the chiefs, who led the trail on ponies, other ponies were loaded with blankets and useful equipment which might carry the children who were too young for walking. Adult members, three in number would break the line and ride into town to buy needs for the tribe. Another camping place was on North Owl Creek where U.S. 75 now crosses the creek.)

When the first Missouri Pacific passenger train left Yates Center going east, among the passengers aboard were Albert F. Palmer and his wife Ella Palmer. Mrs. Palmer was also the first woman passenger to ride this train from Yates Center to Iola in early 1882. Seventy-six years later Ella Palmer again made history when she purchased a ticket to ride the last passenger train to leave Yates Center. This ticket was purchased from O.L. Ackerman, local station agent. While the ticket was just to Durand, it was the ending of an era in railway history. H.H. Calhoun was the brakeman and Andy Fuchs, the conductor on this final passenger train leaving Yates Center.

This picture shows Mrs. Ella Palmer in her later years. To the left is Abbey Palmer Thornburg, Harry and Iva Ashley.

Mrs. Ella Palmer passed away at the age of 99 years and seven months. Mrs. Palmer was truly one of the pioneer women of Woodson County, having lived here through some trying times of the early pioneers.

CHERRY CREEK, SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 14 —

We do not know just when this school was organized nor when it took on the name of Cherry Creek. It was located along the south side of Cherry Creek, seven miles east and a quarter mile south of Yates Center. Another school, known as Cherry Creek was several miles up the creek and finally became known as the Vernon School.

A District treasurer's record book of 1871 reveals much of the history of this school, that was known as School District No. 14. The first entry in this book was March 30, 1871 and the treasurer was Jacob Seitz, whose handwriting was very legible, precise and even. The first order given in this book was to Jerome Anderson for teachers wages to the amount of $40.00. This was issued April 23, 1871. From Nov. 1, 1871 to January 27, 1872. A three month term was taught by Mary E. Marian, whose salary was $25 a month.

Other expenses 106 years ago in that district were to Paul Smith, $8.00 for making of blackboard; G. Hartwig for firewood and also to Michael Heffren for wood.

Gottleib Hartwig was the school treasurer of Dist. 14, in 1870, and had left a total of $158.78 in the teachers fund. The taxes for the school for 1870, received from Isaac Dow, County Treasurer, were $43.21. This school received $288.80 of tax funds from the County Treasurer in 1871. And in 1872, the tax raised up to $425.90. The county population was growing as were the taxes.

A "new" school house was started in November, 1907 and finished the next year at a cost of $778.39. This is the present building known now as the Owl Creek Hall, now being used as a township building. The school bell cost $19.00.

A school and class register of 1881, shows that there were 32 pupils enrolled with Hancie Naylor, who received $25 a month, as the teacher. The pupils ranged in age from 4 to 19 years. Pupils enrolled this term beginning Oct. 3, 1881 were: Sheridan DeVany, Charley Steffen, Michael Lynch, Amelia Hartwig, Ella Lynch, Nora Ziphie, Henry Ziphie, Rosa Kipp, Lena Franklin, Henry Bayer, Louisa Bayer, Maggie Diviny, Sarah Diviny, Fred Steffen, Nellie DeVaney, Lydia Franklin, Anne Linderman, Nellie Franklin, Mary Peters, Maggie Peters, Henry Peters, Willie DeVaney, Annie DeVaney, Sophia Englebrecht, Theodore Bayer, Thomas Lynch, Eugene Diviny, — — Lynch, and Lucy Montgomery.

The Independent Reader was used for the different classes. Davis and Pecke Arithmetic, Barnes and Anderson History Book. Other teachers teaching in the 1870's besides the ones mentioned were Amandy Watts, Carrie McCormick, Anna Jones, Maria Marian, Henry McCormick, G.W. Morris, Laura Chadwick, David Philips, Robert Baker, Emma Austin, N.G. Holt and Lydia R. Naylor.

The last term of school listed in the old book was taught by Emma Barnhard, who received $25 a month.

Pupils attending this school during the 1880's, besides those listed previously were, Louisa Launders, Viola Launders, Louisa Steffen, Henry Steffen, Frank Steffen, Oscar Reinert, Anna Shultz, Tillie Shultz, Martin Diviny, Tracy Link, Otto Link, Rosa Link, Willie Wagoner, John Hafker, Lucy Hafker, Mary Goloby, Frank Goloby, Perry Malcolm, Louisa Kreimer, and Richard Wagoner. The above information was obtained from the treasurer's book, loaned to us by Thomas Lynch and the attendence record by the Wagoner Brothers.

The winter term of 1913-14, at Cherry Creek school, was taught by Ruth McCormick, with the following pupils attending the school; Lawrence Yohon, Marie Yohon, Clara Yohon, Cecil Yohon, Tresa Wagoner, Walter Wagoner, Charles Wagoner, Florence and Francis Wagoner, (twins), Fleta Reece, Alverta Reece, Murle Reece, Lawrence Massoth, Tom Massoth, Morey Massoth, Rose Massoth, Regina Fellwock.

The school board this term were H.H. Peters, John C. Yohon and Mrs. P.C. Steffen.

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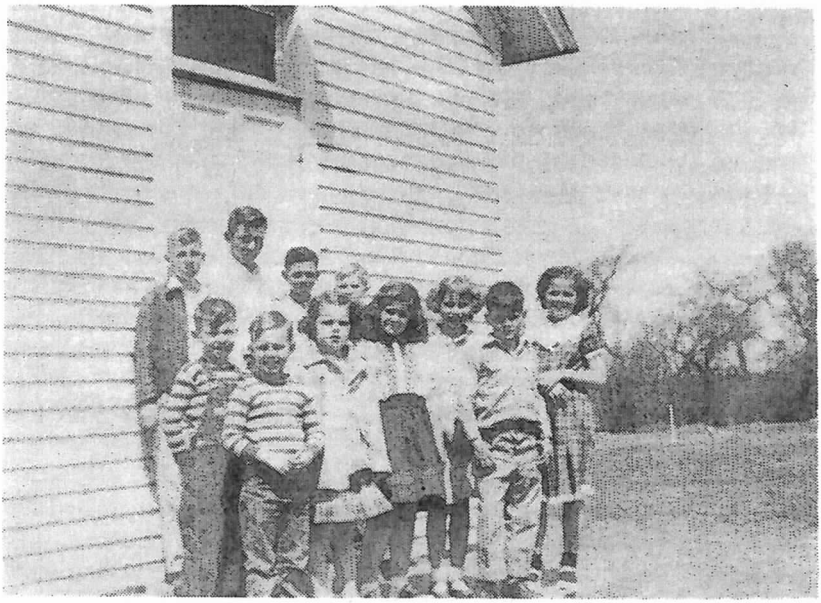
Teachers teaching at District 14, beginning with the year 1881 were, Hancie Naylor, Lori Lossing, Abbie Brown, Alice Rhea, J.F. Woodruff, 1884-1885, Maggie Crahan, W.A. Culver, Emma Barnhart, J.D. Blandy, Lilly Bell, 1890, Belle Withers, Sophia Stange.

Mary Wyse, Hilmer Laude, Charlotte Meyers, Fannie McGill, Nora Wyse, Ida Meyers, 1900-01. Ona Broome, Rula M. Reed, Marcia Kelley, Ray Ferree, Ollie Meyers, Mary Alvis, Iva Pemberton, Ruth McCormick, Mary McCormick, Edith Gollier, Elsie Carter, 1918-19, May Henson, Esther Fulhage, Ellen Beckley, Roy A. Nettrower, Mabel Toedman, Eva Reedy, Mary Wyse, 1930-31. Elmer Krueger, '32, Irma Fulhage, Glenn Knight, Magdalene Wille, Eileen Heffern, Mrs. Opal Wagoner, Mrs. Francis Moyer, 1939, 40, 41, Nellie Manifold, Mary Steffens, Betty Ann Drain, Mary Regina King, Vera Lee Turner, 1948-49-50-51, Ardath Ross, 1952-53-54-55-56. The following year 1956-57 it was combined with the Plum Creek, District No. 26. The teacher was Edna Logan. With this term both of these schools were discontinued and most of the pupils going to the Piqua school, District No. 27.



Pupils going to District No. 14, during the term of 1949-50. Back row; Artie Jones, Harold Eisenbart, Chuck Caudell, Tommy Eisenbart. Front row; Kenny Eisenbart, J.C. Lynch, Kay Lynch, Nadine Hasstedt, Pauline Eisenbart, Sheldon Caudell, Elaine Caudell.

The teacher this term was Vera Lee Turner (Steinforth) who taught this school four terms.

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It has been told that more valedictorians of the Yates Center High School were from Cherry Creek than any other rural school.

One of the most outstanding literary and debating societies was held at Cherry Creek. It was first organized in 1900.

THE WOODSON COUNTY WATERSHED —

Woodson County is one of the few in the state of Kansas that has water sheds flowing in all four directions out of the county. The "ridge" or range of hills that divide these different watersheds is in the northwest part of the county.

Some are large streams and many of the smaller ones have been name locally. We would like to tell something of these various streams, and how some of them were named. We have traced and found names of over 50 different ones.

All of the streams mentioned have their headwaters in Woodson County except Carlisle Creek, that begins in Green County and Spring Creek that comes in from Coffey County, as does a man made stream that we will mention.

We find that there are two Duck Creeks, two Rock Creeks, three Bloody Runs, two Spring Branches besides Spring Creek.

The Neosho River is of course the largest stream to touch the county, cutting across the northeast corner, and perhaps two-thirds of the water that falls in the county drains to the Neosho, while the rest goes to the Verdigris.

Starting with the Neosho River, according to the Osage Indians Neosho means "dirty water or water made muddy." The name Neosho has been spelled many ways by the Osages. The French gave it the name of LaGrande. Zebulon Pike, while on an exploration, followed the river aways and crossed it somewhere near the present Neosho Falls, in 1806. The expedition was composed of Lieut, Zebulon M. Pike, commanding lieut. James B. Wilkinson, one surgeon, one sergeant, two corporals, 16 privates and one interpreter. Also several Osage and Pawnee Indians. The purpose was trade and make friends with the Osage Indians. On September 7, 1806, this group marched across the corner of Woodson County. Pike called this the White River.

Different historians have spelled the name 'Nion-chou', Niocho, Nee-o-jho, Neozhoo, Ne-o-shu, Ni-u-sho, but out of all of them came Neosho.

The part of the river that crosses this county has many curves and bends and drops 9 feet in the two miles.

Going to the southwest corner of the county is the Verdigris River. At the present there is very little of the Verdigris left in the county as the Toronto Reservoir covers all of the area that was once good farm ground and quite a few homes were in that area. The Little Osage Indians called this river Wa-Ce-Ton Xo-E, which has been translated to mean "Gray-green-bark-waters." It seemed to be the bark of the sycamore tree to which they referred. The French used only the first two words of the name, vert y gris "green and gray, from which they made the name Verdigris. The Osage dictionary spelled it the same

as above, and defined it as "green clay." Others said it meant "blue clay" The Osages used the "Blue-colored mud" from the banks of the Verdigris to paint their apparel and themselves. To them the blue clay was a sacred color and they also used the clay to color the faces of the dead.

Another form of the name as used by the Osages was Was-set-to-ho. The Verdigris River is Indian in origin, French by translation and English in pronunciation.

The explanation of these names given by the Osage Indians was taken from the book "Indian Place-names" of Kansas as by John Rydjord.

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TURKEY CREEK AND TRIBUTARIES —

Turkey Creek heads in the northwest part of Woodson Co., going almost strait south for about three miles where it joins a branch coming in from the south that heads near the Kimbell Ranch. The creek then turns east and running east and north for several miles to the Neosho River, over in Coffey Co. What is perhaps the longest stretch of water between fords on any creek in the county is on this creek. There is close to a mile of water without a break. The depth of the 'deep holes' along this creek would probably be around seven to eight feet deep. How it got its name we do not know. In the first surveyors notes of this county, in the 1850's, it was called Turkey Creek. Perhaps some of these surveyors named these major streams.

There have been two different churches named for this creek. The first was a United Brethern, started in 1859, just over into Coffey Co. This was known as the Turkey Creek United Brethern Church. First services were in a log cabin.

The other one is the present Turkey United Methodist Church, although it was started as the Turkey Creek Evangelical Church. The first class was started in 1876, but the church was built in 1891.

Duck Creek drains quite an area along the north part of the county before emptying into Turkey Creek. It has its beginning about a mile east of where the main Turkey Creek starts. We have heard this creek referred to as "Goose River", by some of the older people that lived along it.

We mentioned two Duck Creeks as having headwaters, in this county, and we consider this one as the major one and called it Duck Creek (1), as all of it is in Woodson County. About midway in the length of this creek there is a sharp bend that was called locally the "Ox Bow."

— To Be Continued —

## PATRONS OF WOODSON COUNTY HISTORICAL QUARTERLY

Brown's Western Auto
Milton & Virginia Schornick
Kenneth & Barbara Stockebrand
John V. Glades Agency
Woodson Co. Co-op
Street Abstract Co. Inc.
State Exchange Bank
Self Service Grocery
Krueger's Variety & Dry Goods
HiWay Food Basket
Bill Herman
Piqua Farmer's Co-op
Gaulding Oil Co.
Donald E. Ward
Morton Equipment Co.
Swope & Son Implement Co.
Campbell Plumbing & Electric
Clyde Hill
Cantrell Pontiac-Buick
Paul C. Laidlaw
Rogers Bros. Garage
Newtex Manufacturing Co.
J. C. Schnell
W. D. Smith & Son Furniture
Superior Building Supply, Inc.
Glen Shaw
Pringle Ranch, J.W. & J. Richards
Herring Hardware & Supply
Edwin G. Reid, St. Louis, Mo.
Rex Butler, Nashville, Tenn.
J & W Manufacturing Co.
Kimbell Ranch-Ed Kimbell
Woody's Cafe
Edwin H. Bideau Associate Agencies-Chanute
First National Bank-Toronto
Blackjack Cattle Co. Inc.
Yates Center Elevator
Wilma Mark
Jasper's Shopping Spot
Bill Taylor-Gen. Agent Woodson Co. Farm Bureau
Atkin Clinic
Daly Western Supply
Pyeatte-Jaynes Ins. Agency
Dyer Chevrolet
Linde Barber Shop
House of Fabrics
Milton & Marcella Wrampe
E. E. Light
Atkin Rexall Pharmacy
Gambles Friendly Store
Campbell Funeral Home
Mr. & Mrs. Glen Baker
Piqua State Bank
Wendall McMurray
Everybody's Grocery
McGinty-Coffman Dept. Store
Al's Jewelry